

not resigned. According to previous understanding, he intended to surrender his command to his Lieut.-Colonel, an army officer, himself holding a position on Gen. McClellan's staff until the meeting of Congress. Yesterday he accordingly bade farewell to his men, but to-day, learning that they, with other regiments, had orders to hold themselves in readiness to march, he resumed his place at their head.

A REBEL DODGE.

A Washington Nabob, acting for several distinguished Rebels, has endeavored to protect their property from possible confiscation or injury, by letting it for a merely nominal rent to members of the diplomatic body, some of whom at first snatched at the fine houses offered for rent to nothing; but their eyes were soon opened, and the mansions of Shilden, Benjamin, and others, are still awaiting tenants.

RELICS OF JOHN A. WASHINGTON.

There were found upon the person of Col. John A. Washington, and forwarded to the War Department, two revolvers (Col's Navy), one pair of spurs, one opera glass, one large bow-knife, one pocket compass. Gen. Reynolds retained one of the revolvers, and requested of Secretary Cameron permission to present it to Sergeant Lieber of the 17th Indiana Regiment, who undoubtedly shot the speculator in the ancestral estate of Mount Vernon.

To the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1861.

THE NAVIGATION OF THE POTOMAC.

The Harriet Lane arrived up from Indian Head last night. She reports that new batteries have been erected at Matthias Point.

The Freeborn and Island Belle, in making a reconnaissance at that point yesterday, threw some shot into the woods, and the fire was returned by some new batteries of eighteen heavy guns.

Immediately thereupon, the woods and underbrush were cleared away, exposing the batteries to view. Vessels, in passing, are obliged to hug the Virginia shore, and are exposed to fire for a distance of some four or five miles in doubling the Point.

No vessels passed down the river last night, and it is not known that any came up.

River men represent that the Rebels have a number of some boats and long boats concealed in the creeks and inlets between Aquia Creek and Occoquan Bay, and that they are busy building launches, apparently with a view either to cross into Maryland, or to seize vessels coming up. The report needs confirmation.

The rumor that a number of vessels bound down have been taken by the rebels is unfounded.

Flag-Officer Craven has just arrived here from the lower Potomac. He reports that the river is at last effectively closed, the Rebel batteries commanding it at every point below Washington.

THE ENGAGEMENT NEAR LEESBURG.

Trustworthy accounts from the Upper Potomac this morning state that our troops had returned to their positions in far better order than was anticipated, and held the Virginia side of the Potomac.

THE ARREST OF JUDGE MERRICK.

Judge Merrick to-day sent a letter to his brother Judges of the Circuit Court, relative to his arrest. It grew out of proceedings concerning a recent habeas-corpus case. Soldiers guard him in his own house as a prisoner.

It should be stated that the above-named cause of arrest is the general impression, though nothing is known upon the subject. It may be for some other reason. The Court to-day made an order citing Gen. Porter to appear and show cause why he had ordered the arrest of Judge Merrick, thus obstructing the course of justice.

EXAMINATION OF VOLUNTEER OFFICERS.

The examination of volunteer officers is in progress here. Several individuals have already been rejected, the searching inquiries that are put to new officers showing their utter incompetency for the places to which they had been appointed on the organization of their regiment. The Government is determined that no more incapable officers shall find their way into positions in our army.

GEN. HARNEY.

Gen. Harney still remains in this city, but it is reported that he will soon be assigned to active service.

ADMISSION OF GRAIN INTO PORTUGAL.

The following important dispatch from our Minister to Portugal, in reference to the admission of American grain into that Kingdom, was received by the last steamer:

MR. HARVEY TO MR. SEWARD.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES, LISBON, Sept. 20, 1861.

Sir: I have the honor to inclose herewith translations of two acts passed at the recent session of the Cortes, which the King has affirmed and now caused to be published, that one of some interest to the people of the United States.

The law in regard to the admission of cereals was modified after my dispatch No. 14 was written, and does not include flour in the authorization, but, as will be seen, is confined to wheat, rye, barley, oats, in grain. As the requisite information has not yet been obtained from the civil governors of the Provinces in regard to the extent of injury to the crops, the necessary decree for opening the ports is still reserved by the King. Little doubt is entertained, however, but that it will be issued.

Private letters from well-informed sources speak with great positiveness of shortness of cereal crops in England, France, Belgium, Holland, Spain and Italy, and all answers to the question, "how much can be represented that Portugal will suffer correspondingly, and, perhaps, in even a larger ratio than the others."

The Cortes has for several years successively authorized the Government to admit cereals, as a precautionary measure, and it has generally been exercised to a greater or less extent. The grain crops appear to be troubled with the disease, or something like it, which has so seriously injured the vine.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

JAMES E. HARVEY.

MR. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

Dos Reis, by the grace of God, King of Portugal and of the Algarves.

We make known to all our subjects that the General Cortes has decreed, and we sanction, the following law:

Article 1. All foreign vessels of coasting trade, which, measuring up to 50 tons burden, shall take the Portuguese flag and be destined for the coasting trade in the Province of Cape Verde, are hereby freed from paying the duties imposed by the law of the 12th August, 1852.

Article 2. When the vessels referred to in the preceding article shall leave the coasting trade of Cape Verde and take to some other, they are previously to pay the duties marked in the law of 12th August, 1852.

Article 3. All legislation to the contrary is hereby annulled.

We therefore, etc.

Palacio Nacional, 10th Sept., 1861.

The King, CARLOS BENTODA.

Let us. The great seal of the Royal Arms.

Dos Reis, by the grace of God, King of Portugal and of the Algarves.

We make known to all our subjects that the General Cortes has decreed, and we sanction, the following law:

Article 1. Government is authorized to decree the importation of foreign cereals—wheat, rye, barley, and oats in grain, and baked bread of wheat or rye, through the inland and maritime parts of the kingdom, up to the end of the month of April next.

To wit: All cereals thus admitted are only to pay the same duties as are charged on home cereals when imported for consumption.

Article 2. Before making any use of the present authorization, Government must consult the civil governors of the Kingdom, and likewise the Council.

General of Commerce, Agriculture, and Manufactures, as well as the Council of Districts.

Article 3. After the time designated by the present law, such cereals will still be admitted, regarding which proof shall be given before the Government and the competent fiscal department, that they left the port of their shipment here within the specified date, in case of a regular voyage.

Article 4. Government will give an account to the Cortes of the use made of the authorization conceded by the present law.

Article 5. All legislation to the contrary is hereby annulled.

We therefore ordain that all the authorities to whom all knowledge and execution of these present laws pertain, to comply and observe the same, and cause the same to be complied with and observed as therein mentioned. Let the Councilors of State, Minister and Secretary of State for Finance, and the Minister and Secretary of State for Public Works, Commerce, and Industry, cause these presents to be printed, published, and distributed.

Given at the Palace of Necessaries the 11th Sept. 1861.

The King, with royal sign.

ANTONIO JOSE D'ALCA.

SENIOR ALFONSO VALLERIO DE MONTA.

(The seal of the royal arms.)

THE ATTEMPT TO RUN THE BLOCKADE AT CHARLESTON.

The Secretary of the Navy to-night received the following letter from Flag Officer Goldsborough, dated:

SHIP MINNEAPOLIS, HARTFORD ROAD, Oct. 21, 1861.

Sir: By the Vandalia, which arrived here last night, I am informed by Capt. Marston of the Ronco, that the merchant ship Thomas Watson, one of those to which you called my attention a short time since, was burnt to the water's edge on the 15th inst., while lying aground on Stony Reef, by our blockading vessels of Charleston. It was attempting to get into Charleston despite the blockade, and the pursuit of our cruisers that she ran on this reef. No arms were among her cargo. It was made up of salt, blankets, linens, and a few other things. She had various national flags on board, and among them a Confederate flag.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

L. M. GOLDSBOROUGH, Flag Officer.

To GIBBS WELLES, Secretary of the Navy.

THE FIGHT AT EDWARD'S FERRY.

So far as can be ascertained there has been no renewal of the fight at Edward's Ferry. The indications plainly are that the military authorities are assiduously engaged in strengthening our forces at that point. The information received thus far is presumed to be of such a character as not to entitle it to credence in all particulars.

COL. BAKER'S DEATH IN PENNSYLVANIA.

PHILADELPHIA, Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1861.

The death of Col. Baker has created intense excitement in this city. Flags are shrouded and at half mast. The greatest anxiety prevails to hear further details of the engagement among the relatives of the California Regiment, which is composed mainly of Philadelphians.

The United States Circuit Court has commenced the trial of Walker W. Smith, of the pirate Jeff. Davis, who was captured on board the schooner Enchantress. Six of the Jury have been selected.

HARRISBURG, Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1861.

A General Order was issued immediately upon the receipt of the intelligence of the death of Col. Baker, which contains the following: "It is with great regret the Governor, Commander-in-Chief, has learned of the death of Col. Baker upon the field of battle. Although not a citizen of Pennsylvania, he had been selected by many of her sons as their commander, and met his death while gallantly leading them into action. The same feeling which inspired his soldiers to regard no State lines when our common country was in danger induced the Commander-in-Chief to recognize him while living as a Pennsylvania soldier, and impels him, now that he is dead, to bear this public testimony to his gallantry and worth."

By command of A. G. CURTIS.

FROM GEN. BANKS'S DIVISION.

DANFORTH, Md., Oct. 22, 1861.

The 1st Maryland Regiment, Col. Kenly, which for three months have been guarding the Potomac from the mouth of the Annapolis to Hancock, a distance of 45 miles, has been relieved from this arduous duty by the 13th Massachusetts, and arrived near Gen. Banks's headquarters yesterday, accompanied by Brig.-Gen. Cooper. As showing an unprecedented degree of health, this regiment, numbering upward of 900 men, had only four sick to be conveyed thither in ambulances. This is attributable by the medical officers to the purification of liquor from their late camp and its surroundings. Letters for this regiment should now be addressed to the care of Gen. Banks's headquarters, near Danforth.

On Friday night a picket of the Massachusetts 12th, after halting him and receiving no reply, fired upon a cavalry messenger, on the tow-path of the canal. Last night all hopes of the latter's life were abandoned.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

FORTRESS MONROE, Oct. 21, 1861.

Via Baltimore, Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1861.

A severe gale which has prevailed here, has somewhat retarded the preparations for the great expedition. The gale is now moderating.

Two hundred and fifty men of the Massachusetts Battalion, who were sent out from Newport News this morning for fuel, were attacked by the Rebels and stood their ground. The 1st and 7th New-York Regiments had been sent out to support them when the steamer left for Old Point.

FOR FORT LAFAYETTE.

ALBANY, Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1861.

Reliable information has reached here that J. R. & J. D. Finders, editors and proprietors of the Franklin County Gazette, were arrested to-day by the United States Marshal, and will be taken through here in the night train, on their way to Fort Lafayette.

SOUTHERN ITEMS.

LOUISVILLE, Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1861.

The N. O. Picayune of the 12th editorially congratulates its readers on the success of Hollins's flotilla in the Mississippi, and particularly the exploits of the Manassas. It urges the Southern people to be prepared to drive the Northern invaders from their ports and coasts at every sacrifice and exertion.

A law of the Confederate States rewards the owners of private armed vessels in Confederate hands, 20 per cent of the value of any United States armed vessel and armament which they may destroy.

Another law gives \$20 bounty for each prisoner captured on board each vessel.

The Paymaster also says two Federal vessels were to be seen at the Passes at last accounts, supposed to be the Richmond and Vincennes. The Niagara went eastward before the attack of Saturday.

The Richmond and the Vincennes are afloat, but the other ship is not visible. It was inferred that she was sunk. The damaged one is believed to be the Preble.

The lumber landed at the head of the Passes was not burnt.

The Memphis Appeal learns that S. B. Buckner has been appointed a Major-General.

The Galveston News says hundreds of companies, mostly cavalry, are tendering their services to Gen. Herbert for the defense of Galveston.

Telegraphic communication between New-Orleans and Berwick Bay has been completed.

A telegram from Burwick says the Yankees captured on Saturday last, the schooner Sea Valla, with a cargo valued at \$30,000.

The Mobile Tribune of the 11th, speaking of the Santa Rosa affair, says the coup was made at considerable loss on our side, but doubtless the Federal loss was much exceeded ours.

BATTLE AT FREDERICKTOWN, MO.

DEFEAT OF THE REBEL FORCE.

LOWE, A REBEL LEADER, KILLED.

PLATY KNOX, Mo., Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1861.

The following dispatch was received here this morning, and forwarded to headquarters at St. Louis: FIELD OF BATTLE, FREDERICKTOWN, Mo., Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1861.

In conjunction with Col. Plummer's command, we have routed the rebels of Thompson and Lowe, estimated at 5,000. Their loss was heavy. Our loss was small, and confined principally to the 1st Indiana Cavalry. We captured four heavy guns. Lowe, the rebel leader, was killed.

Major Gavitt and Capt. Highman, of the Indiana Cavalry, were killed in a charge on a battery.

The command of Col. Plummer, referred to above, was on Friday morning last ordered forward by Gen. Grant from Cape Girardeau, with instructions to move toward Fredericktown and cut off the retreat of Thompson and Lowe's force. This force consisted of Marsh's 18th Illinois Regiment, a section of Taylor's battery, and Stewart's and Lehman's companies of cavalry, all from Cairo; also a part of Palmer's 11th Missouri Regiment; a part of Rose's 21st Illinois Regiment, and a section of Campbell's battery, all from Cape Girardeau. The force from this point was composed of the 38th Illinois Regiment, Col. Carlin; the 33d Illinois Regiment, Col. Hovey; 21st Illinois Regiment, Col. Alexander; 6th Wisconsin Regiment, Col. Murphy; 1st Indiana Cavalry, Col. Baker; Capt. Hawkins's Missouri Independent Cavalry, and four Companies and two 24-pounders, under Major Schellfield of the 1st Missouri Light Artillery.

PLATY KNOX, Mo., Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1861.

The following is a special dispatch to The St. Louis Republic:

From trustworthy parties who witnessed the fight at Fredericktown yesterday, I gather the following particulars:

Col. Carlin, with parts of the 21st, 33d, and 38th Illinois Regiments, 8th Wisconsin, Col. Baker's Indiana Cavalry, and Major Scofield's battery, reached Fredericktown at 9 o'clock in the morning, and at 1 p.m. were joined by the 11th, 17th, and 20th Illinois, and 400 cavalry from Cape Girardeau.

They then advanced in pursuit of the rebels under Jeff. Thompson and Col. Lowe, who had left the place twenty-four hours before, and were expected to be rapidly retreating south; but a mile from the city they discovered the entire force of the enemy drawn up in line of battle, partly posted in an open field and partly in the adjacent woods, with the four iron 18 pounders well planted in their front. Major Scofield immediately opened fire, and at the fourth round silenced one of the rebel guns.

The engagement then became general, and lasted about two hours; but after the first half hour the rebels left the field in disorder and took to the woods, closely followed by both our infantry and cavalry.

Before leaving the field, the rebel General Lowe was shot in the head and instantly killed. Major Gavitt received five bullets while leading a charge thirty yards in advance of his command. Capt. Highman was killed in the same charge.

Our loss is reported to be five killed, five mortally wounded, and twenty slightly wounded. The enemy's loss is not ascertained, but it is supposed to be considerable. At last accounts the rebels were in full retreat with their baggage train, and our troops in pursuit.

Two rebel sergeants came into Fredericktown for Col. Lowe's body. They acknowledge a loss of over 400 killed and wounded, but it must have been larger. I counted 25 dead bodies in one stable field.

Their command were badly managed.

Jeff. Thompson got information of our movements by capturing a bearer of dispatches from Col. Plummer to Carlin.

Major Gavitt and Capt. Highman, whose deaths in a gallant charge on a battery are noted above, belonged to the 1st Indiana Cavalry, Col. Conrad Baker. Below we give the names of the principal officers of the cavalry and those of the 21st Illinois Volunteers, who also took part in this engagement:

FIRST INDIANA CAVALRY:

Major-General Conrad Baker.

Company A.....Capt. Brown.

Company B.....Capt. Brown.

Company C.....Capt. Brown.

Company D.....Capt. Brown.

Company E.....Capt. Brown.

Company F.....Capt. Brown.

Company G.....Capt. Brown.

Company H.....Capt. Brown.

Company I.....Capt. Brown.

Company K.....Capt. Brown.

Company L.....Capt. Brown.

Company M.....Capt. Brown.

Company N.....Capt. Brown.

Company O.....Capt. Brown.

Company P.....Capt. Brown.

Company Q.....Capt. Brown.

Company R.....Capt. Brown.

Company S.....Capt. Brown.

Company T.....Capt. Brown.

Company U.....Capt. Brown.

Company V.....Capt. Brown.

Company W.....Capt. Brown.

Company X.....Capt. Brown.

Company Y.....Capt. Brown.

Company Z.....Capt. Brown.

Company AA.....Capt. Brown.

Company AB.....Capt. Brown.

Company AC.....Capt. Brown.

Company AD.....Capt. Brown.

Company AE.....Capt. Brown.

Company AF.....Capt. Brown.

Company AG.....Capt. Brown.

Company AH.....Capt. Brown.

Company AI.....Capt. Brown.

Company AJ.....Capt. Brown.

Company AK.....Capt. Brown.

Company AL.....Capt. Brown.

Company AM.....Capt. Brown.

Company AN.....Capt. Brown.

Company AO.....Capt. Brown.

Company AP.....Capt. Brown.

Company AQ.....Capt. Brown.

Company AR.....Capt. Brown.

Company AS.....Capt. Brown.

Company AT.....Capt. Brown.

Company AU.....Capt. Brown.

Company AV.....Capt. Brown.

Company AW.....Capt. Brown.

Company AX.....Capt. Brown.

Company AY.....Capt. Brown.

Company AZ.....Capt. Brown.

Company BA.....Capt. Brown.

Company BB.....Capt. Brown.

Company BC.....Capt. Brown.

Company BD.....Capt. Brown.

Company BE.....Capt. Brown.

Company BF.....Capt. Brown.

Company BG.....Capt. Brown.

Company BH.....Capt. Brown.

Company BI.....Capt. Brown.

Company BJ.....Capt. Brown.

Company BK.....Capt. Brown.

Company BL.....Capt. Brown.

Company BM.....Capt. Brown.

Company BN.....Capt. Brown.

Company BO.....Capt. Brown.

Company BP.....Capt. Brown.

Company BQ.....Capt. Brown.

Company BR.....Capt. Brown.

Company BS.....Capt. Brown.

Company BT.....Capt. Brown.

Company BU.....Capt. Brown.

Company BV.....Capt. Brown.

Company BW.....Capt. Brown.

Company BX.....Capt. Brown.

Company BY.....Capt. Brown.

Company BZ.....Capt. Brown.

Company CA.....Capt. Brown.

Company CB.....Capt. Brown.

Company CC.....Capt. Brown.

Company CD.....Capt. Brown.

Company CE.....Capt. Brown.